



Senate

General Assembly

February Session, 2002

File No. 317

Senate Bill No. 375

Senate, April 4, 2002

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. FONFARA of the 1st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

**AN ACT CONFORMING CERTAIN STATUTORY PROVISIONS TO THE
REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF CONNECTICUT
REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-9 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 For the purpose of representation in the Congress of the United
4 States, there shall be elected in the manner provided by law one
5 representative from each of the [six] five congressional districts, [into
6 which the state shall be divided, as follows:

7 (Districts omitted. See footnote*.)]

8 Sec. 2. Section 10a-170h of the general statutes is repealed and the
9 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2003*):

10 Loan candidates shall make application to the Commissioner of

11 Higher Education on such forms and at such time as prescribed by said
12 commissioner. Loan recipients shall be selected by the Commissioners
13 of Education and Higher Education, provided said commissioners
14 shall consider affirmative action and equal opportunity goals when
15 selections are made. In the event the number of eligible applicants is in
16 excess of the number of loans available, academic standing and
17 financial need may be considered by the commissioners in selecting
18 loan recipients. Loans under this program shall be in an amount not
19 greater than five thousand dollars per year for not more than four
20 years for students attending independent colleges and universities and
21 not greater than three thousand dollars per year for not more than four
22 years for students attending public colleges and universities. In order
23 to maintain eligible status under this grant program, each recipient
24 shall continue to be enrolled in an accredited college or university and
25 shall demonstrate compliance with the academic standards established
26 by the Commissioners of Education and Higher Education through an
27 annual reapplication process, at such time and in such manner as
28 prescribed by the Commissioner of Higher Education. No student shall
29 receive the proceeds of a loan until said student has submitted a letter
30 from an accredited college or university certifying full-time
31 enrollment. Sixty per cent of the loans awarded annually shall be
32 divided equally among the resident applicants of the state's [six] five
33 congressional districts with the balance awarded on a state-wide basis.
34 If any of the loans designated for resident applicants of any one
35 congressional district are not accepted by a date to be determined by
36 the Commissioner of Higher Education, all such loans not accepted
37 shall be awarded on a state-wide basis.

38 Sec. 3. Section 22-63 of the general statutes is repealed and the
39 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2003*):

40 There shall continue to be a Marketing Authority within the
41 Department of Agriculture. The authority shall continue to have and
42 exercise the powers and duties authorized for it by this chapter. Such
43 authority shall consist of eleven members. The authority shall be
44 composed of one public member from each congressional district of

45 the state, [an] two at-large public [member] members, the
46 Commissioner of Agriculture or his designee, and the Commissioner
47 of Economic and Community Development or his designee. The
48 Governor shall appoint three members of the authority and the
49 president pro tempore of the Senate, the Senate minority leader, the
50 speaker of the House of Representatives and the minority leader of the
51 House of Representatives shall each appoint one member. In addition,
52 the Governor shall appoint two members of the authority who shall be
53 tenants of the Hartford market facility. Any vacancy in the
54 membership of said authority shall be filled by appointment for the
55 unexpired portion of the term. The name of the authority shall be
56 "Connecticut Marketing Authority". The members of the authority
57 shall serve without compensation, but their necessary expenses
58 incurred in the performance of their duties shall be paid by the state.
59 Any member absent from three consecutive meetings shall be deemed
60 to have resigned.

61 Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 22a-134bb of the general statutes is
62 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
63 *January 1, 2003*):

64 (b) The powers of the service shall be vested in and exercised by a
65 board of directors. The membership of the board shall consist of (1)
66 four ex-officio nonvoting members which shall include the Secretary of
67 the Office of Policy and Management or his designee, and the
68 Commissioners of Public Health, Transportation and Environmental
69 Protection or their designees, (2) six members appointed by the
70 Governor, [each] five of whom shall be from [a] different congressional
71 [district] districts, and (3) one member appointed by the Governor who
72 shall be the chairman of the board. Two of such members shall be
73 representatives of the scientific community; two shall be
74 representatives of the general public with no financial interest in the
75 hazardous waste disposal industry and two shall be members of the
76 business community. No elected official shall be eligible for
77 appointment to the board during the term of his elected office. After
78 the date upon which the board has selected a site for the location of a

79 low-level radioactive waste facility, the Secretary of the Office of Policy
80 and Management or his designee, and the Commissioners of Public
81 Health, Transportation and Environmental Protection or their
82 designees shall become voting members of the board, provided if the
83 Nuclear Regulatory Commission fails to approve the licensure of the
84 facility such members of the board shall again become nonvoting
85 members until such time as the board selects another site for the
86 location of the facility.

87 Sec. 5. Subsection (b) of section 27-102l of the general statutes is
88 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
89 *January 1, 2003*):

90 (b) The commissioner shall appoint a deputy, to administer a
91 veterans' advocacy and assistance unit for the aid and benefit of
92 veterans, their spouses and eligible dependents and family members.
93 The unit shall have a staff of not less than eight men and women,
94 including six service officers, and clerical personnel. The department
95 head, the deputy commissioner and the service officers shall be
96 veterans as defined in section 27-103 or veterans who were awarded
97 the armed forces expeditionary medal for service by the armed forces.
98 At least one of the service officers shall be a woman having a
99 demonstrated interest in the concerns of women veterans, who shall be
100 responsible for addressing those concerns. Each service officer shall
101 successfully complete a course in veterans' benefits within one year of
102 commencement of employment and shall be assigned to one of the
103 ~~[six]~~ five congressional districts of the state.

104 Sec. 6. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 51-44a of the general
105 statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
106 (*Effective January 1, 2003*):

107 (a) There is established a Judicial Selection Commission comprised
108 of twelve members. Two persons shall be appointed from each
109 congressional district and two persons shall be appointed from the
110 state at-large, one each of whom shall be an attorney-at-law and one
111 each of whom shall not be an attorney-at-law. Not more than six of the

112 members shall belong to the same political party. None of the members
113 shall be an elected or appointed official of the state or hold state-wide
114 office in a political party.

115 (b) The members of the commission shall be appointed as follows:
116 The Governor shall appoint six members, one from each congressional
117 district and one from the state at-large, who shall be attorneys-at-law;
118 the president pro tempore of the Senate and the speaker of the House
119 of Representatives shall each appoint one member who shall not be an
120 attorney-at-law; the majority leader of the Senate and the majority
121 leader of the House of Representatives shall each appoint one member
122 who shall not be an attorney-at-law; and the minority leader of the
123 Senate and the minority leader of the House of Representatives shall
124 each appoint one member, who shall not be an attorney-at-law.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 4	<i>January 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 5	<i>January 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 6	<i>January 1, 2003</i>

GAE *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Fund-Type	Agency Affected
GF - None	Agriculture Dept.
GF - None	Higher Ed., Dept.
GF - None	Vet. Affairs, Dept.
GF - None	Judicial Selection Com.
GF - None	Secretary of the State

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

This bill conforms various statutory provisions to the reduction in the number of Connecticut representatives in Congress.

Section 1 of this bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Office of the Secretary of the State.

Section 2 of the bill refers to a loan forgiveness program (Teacher Incentive Loan Program) administered by the Department of Higher Education that no longer exists. Consequently, passage of the bill would result in no fiscal impact.

Section 3 of this bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Department of Agriculture.

Section 4 of this bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Connecticut Hazardous Waste Management Service.

Section 5 of this bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Currently, they have Veteran Service Officers in each of the six districts and would continue to maintain the

staffing level. Due to the demand within the geographical areas, the department would maintain the staffing in the regions.

Section 6 of this bill alters the composition of the Judicial Selection Commission. This change has no fiscal impact because members of the commission are not compensated.

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 375

**AN ACT CONFORMING CERTAIN STATUTORY PROVISIONS TO
THE REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF CONNECTICUT
REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS****SUMMARY:**

This bill revises the election law and other statutes to reflect the reduction in Connecticut's U.S. Congressional delegation from six members to five. It changes the membership of certain commissions whose membership is based on representation from congressional districts. The affected programs and entities are the academic scholarship loan program, Marketing Authority, Connecticut Hazardous Waste Management Service, Veterans' Advocacy and Assistance Unit, and Judicial Selection Commission.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2003, except the change in the number of members of Congress who must be elected from Connecticut is effective upon passage.

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP LOAN PROGRAM

The bill requires the commissioners of education and higher education to distribute 60% of the awards for this program equally among applicants who reside in the state's five, rather than six, congressional districts. The balance is awarded on a statewide basis. Loans are available under the program for up to \$5,000 per year for students attending independent colleges and universities and up to \$3,000 per year for students attending public colleges and universities.

CONNECTICUT MARKETING AUTHORITY

On the 11-member Marketing Authority, the bill reduces by one the number from each congressional district and increases the number of at-large members from one to two. As under current law, the governor appoints three members and the four legislative leaders each appoint one. The commissioners of agriculture and economic and community development also serve.

CONNECTICUT HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICE

The bill requires the governor to appoint five of his appointees to the board of directors for the service from different congressional districts and the sixth appointee at-large. The total membership and composition of the board remains the same: the secretary of the Office of Policy and Management; commissioners of public health, transportation, and environmental protection; six public members; and the chairman, also appointed by the governor.

VETERANS' ADVOCACY AND ASSISTANCE UNIT

The bill leaves the number of service officers for this unit at six, but revises their statutory assignment to require that one be assigned to each of the five congressional districts. The unit generally (1) assists veterans, their spouses and eligible dependents and family members in applying for aid; (2) gathers and disseminates information; and (3) assesses veterans' needs.

JUDICIAL SELECTION COMMISSION

The bill keeps the commission membership at 12, but permits two people to be appointed from the state at-large. The others must be appointed from congressional districts, with two from each. One of the gubernatorial appointments must be from the state at-large. One of the legislative leaders (unspecified in the bill) appoints the other at-large member.

BACKGROUND***Related Bill***

The Judiciary Committee reported sHB 5683, which makes the same change to the Judicial Selection Commission.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 19 Nay 0